



Aircraftsman

Navy's highly decorated vet employed at CCAD

(Editor's note: This article contains excerpts taken from "Decorated veteran recalls Viet horrors" by Stephanie L. Jordan, Corpus Christi Caller-Times, February 24, 2001.)



AD1(AW) Jerry M. Johnson (E-6) the U.S. Navy's highly decorated veteran works here at CCAD in the directorate of engine production.

Jerry Johnson of the directorate of engine production is one of the most decorated veterans around, and the most decorated at CCAD. Among the medals Johnson earned during his military

career are four Silver Stars, three Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts, and 32 Air Medals. The veteran U.S. Navy and Army Special Forces member served 39 months in Viet Nam. His missions were mostly classified and he says the acts that led to the awards are not foremost in his memory. What he does remember is the fear he felt and the buddies he left behind.

Johnson said he was afraid every day he was in Viet Nam and noted that of 16 members of his team, only nine came home alive. He came home with painful memories and a problem with alcohol that he has since overcome.

Johnson said he has no regrets having served. He had two younger brothers and sons at the time.

"Because I served, they didn't have to," Johnson said.

On this Veteran's Day week, the Aircraftsman thanks Johnson, and all our other veteran CCAD employees who have served, and those still serving today all over the world.

Show your respect

The "Star-Spangled Banner" (The Defense of Fort McHenry), written by Francis Scott Key on September 20, 1814:

*"Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?*

*Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"*

Every time I hear those words, I get a lump in my throat—call me a patriotic

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The CCAD Combined Federal Campaign, led by Loaned Executive Eulalio (Lalo) Reyna once again topped the goal gauge this year. CCAD campaign workers celebrated with Col. Jim Budney last week. Shown in the picture above are (l-r): “Speedy” Gonzalez, Milton Forge, Valentin De Los Santos, Carolyn Meyer, Carla Johnson, Helen Hernandez, Shannon Chavez, Reyna, Budney, Del Carreno, Cynthia Holmes, Olga Herrera, Ruben Martinez, SGM Scott Hendershott, Johnny Villarreal, and Lina Pena. CFC workers not pictured are: Dwight Martin, David Davila, and Dora Alcazar. With a total of over \$250K collected against a goal of \$230K, and 19 Eagle award donors, the CCAD campaign contributions have been the key to the United Way of the Coastal Bend’s campaign successfully meeting its goal each year.



Employees in the industrial trades shop in directorate of engineering services once again accomplished 100% participation in the 2003-2004 Combined Federal Campaign. Pictured above are (l-r): Mario Rocha; Ignacio Guzman; Joe Benavides; Roy McFall (partially visible); Robert Chavira; Steven Spurlock; Gilbert Rosalez; Paulino Landa; Asencion Gonzalez; Reynaldo Muniz; Agustin Acosta; Mike De Ases; Fernando Vera, supervisor; and Victor Trevino. Not visible in photo is Ruben Padron and not available for photo were Amado Trevino and Felix Vasquez. This is the fourth consecutive year that the shop has achieved 100% participation.



Wayne Lunsford, CCAD IG (l), is shown during the closing discussion session which concluded a visit by the AMC IG team. Next to Lunsford is LTC George Gore, AMC IG Office; Maureen Bonifield with the AMC Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel office; SFC Spencer B. Miller, and Jim Mong, also with the AMCIG Office. The team was here to gather information on the CCAD apprentice, co-op, and intern training programs as part of the AMC-wide assessment of the civilian workforce revitalization inspection.



Col. David Hafele (2nd from right), with the AMCOM Command Group, visited CCAD for an orientation tour and briefings on the CCAD support to Ft Rucker and CCAD Forward OCONUS programs. Shown in the photo with Hafele are Dennis Collins from the directorate of resource management (l), Mark Moe, IMMC; and John Little, also with IMMC during a tour of Hangar 43.



Sharon Haynes is seen putting the finishing touches on the display case for Veterans' Day as Pat Valdez of the office of the commander assists. The case contained World War II memorabilia from the collection of CCAD directorate of aircraft production's Manuel Ayala.



Pat Felix from the directorate of resource management (foreground) and Guadalupe Buenrostro of the directorate of manufacturing/process production, pause to view the Veterans' Day display. Posters featuring photos of veterans employed at CCAD were the work of Gus Gonzalez and Ed Slonaker of the directorate of resource management. **(Editor's note: The Aircraftsman extends apologies to CCAD veterans who did not receive notification in time to provide photos for this display. It is our plan to set up similar displays twice a year, for Memorial Day and Veterans' Day. We encourage you to send/bring your photos to the PAO in Room 124 anytime between the hours of 6:30AM and 3:30PM for the next display. Correction: Victor Trevino was erroneously identified as being in the U.S. Marine Corps. Trevino served in the U.S. Navy.)**



*Photo by Larry R. Jobe,
CCAD Chief of Staff*

Keeping CCAD in the public eye - Rick Weatherly, aircraft mechanic with LSI in the CCAD flight test office, is seen talking to two unidentified young men who stopped by the UH-1 static display at the Occidental Chemical plant's annual employee picnic last month. Weatherly and the CCAD crew set up the display at the plant's picnic grounds at Bayside.



Sgt. 1st Class William Egan (Texas National Guard), takes the oath from Col. Jim Budney, CCAD commander during his reenlistment last week. Egan, the Boeing CH-47 tech representative at CCAD, who lives with wife Sandra, son John (14), and daughter Brittany (12) in Corpus Christi, says he enjoys working and supporting the depot and the CH-47 program.



Best production hour record – The directorate of production management recently celebrated shop employees excelling in production hour towards the 1615 goal. The can shop, with acting supervisor Lee Haynes (shown in left photo wearing dark glasses) at the helm, had the second best record depot-wide. In photo at right, Col. Jim Budney, depot commander, joins the employees of the airframe cleaning shop, (Charlie Espinoza, supervisor) to celebrate the event.

CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT
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The Aircraftsman is published for employees like:



22-year depot employee Alma Vead, aircraft mechanic in the directorate of engines production, and the "IRAC twins" pictured below, Catherine Lawrimore (l) and Dorothy Bratcher.



Know the words and the protocols of your national anthem

("Anthem" continued from page 1)

fanatic—I'll gladly claim the title.

How many of us know the words to this song, our national anthem? And what we hear is only the first of the four verses written by a lawyer from Georgetown in September 1814. Francis Scott Key was asked to help secure the release of an elderly and much-loved town physician who was being held on the British flag-ship TONNANT. Accompanied by Col. John Skinner, the American agent for prisoner exchange,

Key set out on a sloop to find the TONNANT and confer with the British officers in charge. The British placed the three under guard aboard a British ship and then onto the sloop. The three watched the battle against Fort McHenry behind the British fleet with apprehension, waiting till daylight. When day broke, the flag was still there.

Key, an amateur poet, began writing on the back of a letter and finished the poem in his hotel room on his way back to Baltimore. It was printed under the title "Defense of Fort McHenry" and was first performed in public by an actor who titled it "The Star-Spangled Banner" in October 1814.

Though immediately popular, it remained just one of several patriotic pieces and was finally adopted as our national anthem on March 3, 1931. The actual words were not included in the legal documents because Key had written several versions with slight variations. Consequently, discrepancies in the exact wording still occur.

Even if we don't know or care to learn the words, we should still follow proper etiquette when we hear

the national anthem being played (every morning at 8:00 a.m.) on-board NAS Corpus Christi. In these times, when the words "land of the free and home of the brave" have taken on a whole new meaning for us, in memory of those who perished during the September 11 attacks on our nation, to honor the service members who have given the ultimate sacrifice, and in support of those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and all over the world, I feel we can take a few seconds from our busy schedules to pay proper respect to our flag and our anthem.

Ceremonial etiquette dictates that civilians stand, face the flag, or if the flag is not in sight, face the direction from which the music is heard, and place the right hand over the heart, just as when reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Males should remove headgear. When in your vehicle, pull over, (remember to use your emergency flashers), and either exit your vehicle if possible, or sit in it quietly until the music concludes.

(Editor's note: Information contained in this article was taken from The Flag of the United States web-site at

<http://www.usflag.org/francis.scott.key.html> and the words to "The Star-Spangled Banner" from The University of Oklahoma Law Center's web-site at

<http://www.law.ou.edu/ssb.html>.

I encourage everyone to visit these two sites to learn the complete story behind Francis Scott Key's writing of the original poem and the words that became our national anthem, respectively.)



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